



**NH Site Evaluation Committee**  
**ATTN: Ms. Jane Murray**  
**NH Department of Environmental Sciences**  
**29 Hazen Road, Box 95**  
**Concord, NH 03302-0095**

NHPUC 17SEP15AWB:22

Dear Committee members:

I strongly urge the Site Evaluation Committee approve the Sea-3 Inc. exemption request. As a propane dealer for New Hampshire homeowners and businesses, I am convinced that allowing Sea-3 to upgrade its railcar offloading capacity in Newington as soon as possible would benefit both me and my customers in the Manchester area.

Since opening in 1975, the Newington facility has zero recorded explosions or fires related to the delivery of propane by rail to the facility. Given the highly trained staff at Sea-3 and the company's significant investment in safety equipment, there is every reason to believe impressive safety record will continue. I believe that is a key reason why the Newington Planning Board unanimously approved the project.

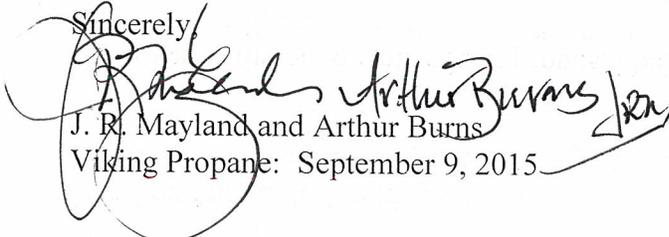
I know a few Portsmouth residents who bought homes along the rail lines have suddenly raised concerns related to the safety of those rails, but I am also aware that the rail line from Portsmouth to Rockingham Junction has recorded no releases of hazardous materials over the past ten years. Those same tracks have recently undergone a \$1 million upgrade.

Moreover, if the opponents of this proposal believe blocking Sea-3, blocks propane delivery by rail, they are mistaken. The 77,000 New Hampshire residents requiring propane for winter heat, also want propane delivered in the safest, most efficient and cost-effective manner possible. Today that means delivering domestically produced propane by rail.

With or without the Sea-3 upgrade, rail delivery of propane into New Hampshire will continue to increase in the years to come. Without the Sea-3 upgrade, the propane will simply be taken off the trains and pumped into trucks at temporary rail sidings. While such trans-loading is common and appropriate, it is nowhere near as efficient, safe, or secure as offloading at the permanent storage and terminal facility.

The vast majority of New Hampshire businesses and homeowners who rely on propane for heat, will benefit from the Sea-3 upgrade. Since their application meets all SEC requirements for receiving an exemption, there should be nothing in the way of your Committee's approval

Sincerely,

  
J. R. Mayland and Arthur Burns

Viking Propane: September 9, 2015